

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

February 16, 2007

Message From County Executive Walker

A resolution was introduced by various members of the County Board that would raise the sales tax by .25% and hotel tax by 3%.

Rest assured, I will veto that resolution if it comes to my desk. We don't need a tax island in Milwaukee County. Raising taxes will drive more people and jobs out of the county.

Milwaukee County would have the highest sales tax in the state and one of the highest hotel taxes in the country under the proposal by various members of the County Board.

In addition to driving people, jobs and business out of town, this plan would also keep people from coming to town, due to the fact that a hotel tax of 17.6% would be higher than any other city of our size in the country.

I support an alternative plan to use annual growth in the sales tax from automobile purchases currently collected to support transit. The plan would provide more than \$33 million during the next state budget and more than \$100 million in the following state budget to support systems like the Milwaukee County Transit System.

Taxpayers expect us to find ways to support vital services without raising taxes.

Scott

Walker Announces Details of 2007 County Executive's Ride



County Executive Walker announced details of the 2007 Executive's Ride today at House of Harley. Waukesha County Executive Dan Vrakas, Jeannine Sherman from VISIT Milwaukee, and ride organizers Rick and Cheryl Kuchenbecker and Tony Sanfelipo joined Walker at the event. The ride will promote Milwaukee County and the entire Milwaukee 7 region.

The ride will take place from June 23 to June 28 with stops in 33 cities including Rockford, LaCrosse, Chippewa Falls, Duluth and Green Bay. Some of the points of interest include:

- The Hodag, Rhinelander
- Northern Great Lakes Center, Ashland
- Buell American Motorcycle Plant, East Roy
- Northwoods League baseball game, LaCrosse
- Point Brewery, Stevens Point

For more information on the ride, go to www.countyexecutivesride.com.

Walker Visits Washington Park Senior Center



Walker watches as Senior Center members demonstrate a device they designed to help disabled bowlers

County Executive Walker joined seniors for lunch during a visit to the Washington Park Senior Center on Tuesday as part of his pledge to visit every senior center in Milwaukee County this year.

Milwaukee County's Oldest Resident Celebrates Birthday



Last Friday, County Executive Walker attended Charlessa Wiggins' 109th birthday party. Walker presented Mrs. Wiggins with a proclamation recognizing her as Milwaukee County's oldest resident.

Thrivent Gives Major Community Gift



County Executive Walker joined staff, students and community members at a press conference Wednesday at Hope Christian Schools of Milwaukee where Thrivent Financial for Lutherans announced they were providing over \$700,000 to Habitat for Humanity to build houses and help strengthen the Harambee North neighborhood. Thrivent also gave a \$562,500 grant to Hope Christian Schools of Milwaukee.

State of the County Address Next Monday

County Executive Walker will present his State of the County address on Monday, February 19th at the Karen Peck Katz Conservation Education Center at 11:00am. Walker will focus on the positive work being done in Milwaukee County and will highlight some of the many positive developments for the coming year.